

UNWRITTEN HISTORY

Major John C. Alderson Relates Interesting Chapters.

LINCOLN BROKE PLEDGE

He Had Agreed Not to Call on Virginia to Furnish Troops, but Pressure of Stanton Was Too Great. The Consequence.

The Times-Dispatch Bureau, No. 347 G Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., April 25th.

Major John C. Alderson, formerly of West Virginia, but now of Wall Street, some time an officer in the Confederate army, told me a most remarkable story at the New Willard to-day relating to President Lincoln and his attitude after the war towards the States which had seceded from the Union.

"In April, 1865, just after the end of the war," said Major Alderson, "I was sitting on the porch of the residence of Lieutenant-Governor Price, in Lewisburg, in Greenbrier county. I had just gotten home from the army, and you may well believe I was enjoying the rest and the company of the prettiest girl in the world, Governor Price's daughter, who was on the porch with me.

"While we were talking," Major Alderson continued, "a soldier suddenly galloped into sight and drew rein at the door. He asked if that was Governor Price's house, and upon my telling him that it was, he said he brought a letter from the United States. He had evidently ridden hard, for he looked greatly fatigued and his horse was covered with foam.

"I told him that the Governor was down on his farm two or three miles away, and that as he seemed tired and broken down I would deliver the letter. The officer hesitated, but upon the young lady's assuring him that I was as one of the family and that it would be all right, he gave me the letter, which was in a large envelope. The officer went into the house to rest and get something to eat. I got on a horse and hurried to the farm to see Governor Price.

"I found the old fellow at work in the barn fanning wheat," Major Alderson went on, with a reminiscent smile. "They had buried two or three sacks of grain to keep it from falling into the hands of the Northern troops, and now they had resurrected it and were cleaning it. He was standing by the hopper working the grain through to the riddles.

"I jumped off my horse and hurried into the barn.

"Governor," I said in some excitement, "here is a letter for you from the President of the United States."

"The old fellow turned as white as a sheet. You see we did not know at that time just what course the United States would pursue towards the men who had fought in the Confederate army or held office under the Confederate Government. The old fellow broke the seal and took out a large document, portentous looking indeed. He read hurriedly.

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THE average person does not purchase more than one piano in a lifetime. In order that this one purchase should prove satisfactory you should not experiment by buying an untried make of piano.

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The highest grade instrument sold by any manufacturer in the city. It may cost you slightly more than other pianos, but the additional safety warrants the outlay.

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J. G. CORLEY, Manager.

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ly and then laughed.

"It's all right," he said, and he handed me the letter. It was addressed to Lieutenant-Governor Price and signed by Abraham Lincoln. It requested him to call the Virginia Legislature together at once to take action regarding the changed condition of affairs in the State. In conclusion were these words, which I shall always remember: 'I want you people to come back and hang up your hats on the same old pegs.'

"But on the very night that letter was received, I think," said Major Alderson, "the President was assassinated, and his plans for the government of the States which seceded were never carried out."

Major Alderson said that the letter was addressed to the Lieutenant-Governor for the reason that Governor Smith had fled from Richmond at the evacuation of that city, and President Lincoln did not know where he was.

Major Alderson's wife, a daughter of Governor Price, was a witness of the conference between a representative of the Union and a committee from the secession convention. A delegation from the convention, elderly men who wished to keep Virginia in the Union, had conferred with Mr. Lincoln on the subject, and probably came to Washington to see him. Mr. Lincoln was informed that if he would pledge himself not to call on Virginia to coerce the States which had seceded, the State would not leave the Union.

"Mr. Lincoln sent his representative to Richmond on the 13th of April, 1865," said Major Alderson. "A large number of men opposed to the State leaving the Union met him that night in one of the parlors at the Exchange Hotel. The meeting was private, but my wife, who was then a young girl, in Richmond with her father, and a female companion of about her own age, sat behind the door and saw all that was said and done.

"General Powell, I think, was Mr. Lincoln's representative. He was introduced to the gentlemen present, chiefly the members of the secession convention. The object of the conference was stated, and then General Powell, addressing the conference, showed the members that he had authority from Mr. Lincoln to promise that if Virginia would not leave the Union, he would never be asked to aid in coercing the States which had done so.

"When General Powell made this announcement the effect was electric, my wife says," said Major Alderson. "She has often told me how those old men, who loved the Union better than any other class in the country loved it, danced about the room like boys, embracing each other, and laughing and weeping by turns.

General Powell returned to Washington the next day," Major Alderson continued, "and at once went to the White House and told Mr. Lincoln what he had done. That afternoon Mr. Lincoln told Mr. Stanton, Secretary of War, that he sent for Mr. Seward, Secretary of State, and the two remained with the President until after midnight. The world knows how the next day Mr. Lincoln issued his call for 75,000 troops, and how the next day Virginia seceded from the Union. It was clearly Stanton who made the President violate his pledge, and plunge the country into four years of war."

Major Alderson says he feels sure that neither of the foregoing stories have ever been published. To me they were of the deepest interest as evidencing the love of Virginia for the Union, and the state of mind on the part of Mr. Lincoln towards the old State, both before and after the war.

I have heard several Democrats speak recently of the eminent fitness of Senator F. M. Simmons, of North Carolina, for the position of chairman of the Democratic National Committee. He has for eight or ten years been the chairman of the North Carolina State Committee, and it is claimed that he has made the ablest chairman the party has ever had in the State. Colonel John S. Cunningham, of North Carolina, who is in the city to-day, expressed the opinion that the National Committee could not find in the whole country a man so well qualified for the position of chairman.

There is no doubt of the eminent fitness of Senator Simmons for the place, but if Senator Gorman is not the Democratic nominee for the presidency next year, he will almost certainly be made national chairman.

The Virginia Legislature has hardly ever done anything so pleasing as the passage of the bill appropriating \$200,000 for the Jamestown Exposition," said Colonel Cunningham. "The State will get back every cent of it. The exposition is going to be a wonderful success as an advertisement for the resources of Virginia. I hope North Carolina will have a fine exhibit and I believe she will. Every State carved from Virginia territory should have an exhibit of products and in fact that Virginia gave to the United States the opinion that the States were carved should cause the National government to make the exposition a liberal appropriation."

Colonel Cunningham is much interested in a recent visit to the State of North Carolina on May 1st of the North Carolina Farmers' Association, of which he is the president.

Although it is generally conceded by alumni of the University of Virginia in this city that Dr. John Bassett Moore of New York, will be chosen president of the University by the Board of Visitors at the meeting next Tuesday, it is said that Prof. P. P. Venable, an alumnus, and now at the University of North Carolina, has friends on the board who will vote for him. It is not known here whether the name of Colonel George W. Miles will be voted upon.

Hon. John Goode is in Norfolk, visiting his son, Mr. James U. Goode.

The minister from Siam, whose name few here had ever heard of, went down to Old Point last night, where he will remain some days. He suffers with insomnia, and declares he has not slept for a month. It was suggested that he take a short vacation and spend it in Philadelphia, but he preferred Old Point.

W. E. H.

Richmonders in New York. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NEW YORK, April 25.—(Hoffman-A. B. Blair, R. L. Montague.)

COL. SMITH'S SUDDEN END

Well-Known Man Victim of Heart Disease Yesterday.

FUNERAL AT 4 P. M. MONDAY

Takes Place from the Second Baptist Church—Served Gallantly in the Civil War—Most Excellent Citizen.

Just as he entered the door of his residence yesterday afternoon about 2 o'clock Colonel William P. Smith, one of the best known residents of the city, fell mortally stricken with an affection of the heart, with which he had been troubled for some months. By the time relatives reached his side he was dead.

Colonel Smith, who was connected with the City Treasurer's office, left home as usual yesterday morning, apparently in his ordinary health. In the course of the day's work he felt faint and about 10 o'clock in the morning he went outside for a breath of fresh air. While standing just across from Ford's Hotel, he was stricken with heart trouble, with which he has suffered for the past year or more, and before bystanders could come to his assistance he fell to the pavement.

From this attack he recovered after a short while. Returning to the office he completed his work and shortly before 2 o'clock in the afternoon he left for his home in the Bellevue Plaza at Fifth and Cary streets. Whether he was conscious of anybody knows. About 2 o'clock members of the family heard a fall in the hall and rushing out discovered Colonel Smith lying prone upon the stairs where he had sunk down under another attack of heart disease. Physicians were at once summoned, but the stricken man was beyond aid. His death followed in a few moments.

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE. A native of Fredericksburg, where he was born about sixty-three years ago, Colonel Smith came to Richmond in 1855, when quite a boy. Since that time except for a few years during the war and a few years after the war when he went to North Carolina, his residence had been here. As a young man he was connected with the dry-goods store of Samuel L. Price. When the war began he enlisted with the Richmond Howitzers until he was seriously disabled and had to be sent to the rear. After fighting bravely in several other battles he was wounded at Gettysburg, where he lost a finger and a leg.

For a number of years after the war Captain Smith was associated with the firm of H. B. Tallaferra and Company, commission merchants. In business he was successful, and in ten years ago he ran for the office of city treasurer, but was defeated by Mr. Charles Phillips. About six years ago he became a clerk under Mr. Phillips in the treasurer's office and in this position he occupied until the time of his death.

Throughout the city Colonel Smith was well known and highly esteemed. He was a member of the Board of Visitors of Lee Camp, Soldiers' Home, and was ever actively interested in this work. He was a post commander of the Grand Camp of Virginia, and a post commander of the Lee Camp, Confederate Veterans. He was also active in church circles, having been for a number of years secretary and treasurer of the Sunday-school of the Second Baptist Church.

His children are: Mrs. V. C. Thompson, of Raleigh, N. C.; Mrs. E. S. Woodall, of Washington; Mrs. H. B. Woodward, of Richmond; Miss Araminta Smith, of Richmond; Mr. Frank B. Smith, of Richmond; Mr. Lewis, also one brother, Mr. D. S. Smith, and one sister, Mrs. Eleanor Williams.

The funeral will take place at 4 o'clock Monday afternoon from the Second Baptist Church. The interment will be made in Hollywood.

The following delegation from Lee Camp will meet at 3:30 o'clock at the Camp Hall and attend the funeral: Dr. James P. Smith and Messrs. A. O. Jones, E. Jeter Boshier, E. S. Cardozo, O. B. Morgan, James W. Pogram, Joseph W. Thomas and John E. Laughlin, Jr.

COMMISSIONER KOEHLER

Tribute to His Work Appears in the Chicago Live Stock World.

The work of the Department of Agriculture is increasing every day, and Commissioner Koehler is one of the busiest of State officials. The Commissioner's office is quite large, and seems to be growing all the time. The names of more than thirty thousand farmers are on the permanent mailing list, and on an average of five hundred names a month are being added to the number.

Commissioner Koehler is doing a good work, which is recognized even outside the State. A great tribute to him and Virginia appeared editorially in a recent issue of the Chicago Live Stock World.

BUILT OVER.

Entertainment at St. Mary's Hall the Evening of the 29th.

The leading event in Catholic social circles will be the dramatic entertainment to be given by the young ladies of the Benedictine Academy under the direction of Mrs. Jennie Yeamans, principal of the Conservatory of Music.

The entertainment will take place at St. Mary's Hall, No. 212 East Marshall Street, Wednesday, April 29, 1903, at 8 o'clock P. M.

Rebecca's Triumph is a very attractive drama of three acts, and has met with great success whenever presented. The young ladies have been diligently rehearsing for some time, and to judge by the demand for tickets they will be greeted with a crowded house.

Mrs. Jennie Yeamans, who has been conducting a class of expression at the leading roles, and the other members of the cast will be Miss Eleanor Steinbrecker, as Rebecca; Miss Adele Loving, as Mrs. Delamere; Miss Rosa Bahen, as Mrs. Rokeham; Miss Alma Dominecke, as Charles Codman; Rebecca Club; Miss Della Tolker, as Dora Gaines; Miss Rosa Slewars, as Sadie Morrell; Miss Estelle Hulcher, as Jennie Woodman; Miss Marie Stump, as Nellie Pumbard; Miss Marie Anderson, as Emma Stevens; Miss Grace Miller, as Grace Greenwood; Miss Bertha Levy, as Maria Gray; Miss Carrie Bragg, as Alice Leeds; Miss Madeline Dominecke, as Gustie Green; Miss Nora Fitzpatrick, as Kate Connerly; Iris Girl; Miss Mary Bosseux, as Gyp, a colored servant.

Mr. Schadd Better. Mr. John Schadd, who was operated on at the A. C. L. Hospital, North Carolina, is much improved, and will be home to his friends in a few weeks.

CRUSHES OUT THE LIFE

Not even Leprosy is more dangerous and deadly than Contagious Blood Poison. It is the greatest foe to human life and happiness, and the most loathsome and hateful of all forms of Blood Poison. The virus of this awful disease spreads quickly through the system and contaminates every drop of blood and affects every bone, muscle and tissue of the body. This monster scourge begins with a tiny little ulcer or sore, sometimes so small that the natural eye is deceived, but this little sign of infection is soon followed by swellings in the groin, a red rash or eruption upon the skin, the mouth and throat become sore and the hair and eyebrows fall out, and if the progress of the disease is not checked now, it passes on to another and even worse stage, when copper-colored spots and sores and offensive ulcers break out upon different parts of the body, and not even the muscles and bones escape the ravages of the destructive poison, which penetrates deeper and deeper, and gradually tightens its coils and crushes out the life.

Contagious Blood Poison brings suffering and pain to the innocent as well as the guilty, for it is often communicated to others through handling the clothing of one infected, using the same toilet articles, drinking out of the same vessel, shaking hands, and in various other ways. But this merciless disease does not stop at adult age, for it is transmitted to children, and is responsible for the fearful increase of Scrofula, Catarrh, ill development, sickening sores and stubborn, deep-seated skin troubles, so common among children; and these patient, helpless little sufferers must share the humiliating penalty of somebody's sin. If people only knew the horrors of blood poison they would shun it as they do Leprosy, and fear it as they do deadly Cancer and would never rest till every atom of the poison was forever destroyed and the disease completely stamped out.

You can't do this with Mercury and Potash, for, while they drive in the eruption and sores and all external signs of the disease, it is still raging within the body, and only by increasing the dose and saturating the system with these drugs can it be held in check. And thus the battle between Contagious Blood Poison and Mercury and Potash goes on till the Stomach rebels and will no longer retain the medicine, the bones become affected, and Mercurial Rheumatism, chronic indigestion and other troubles develop.

Until the discovery of S. S. S., the great vegetable blood purifier and tonic, no cure was known for Blood Poison. Like Leprosy it would run its course and was as surely fatal as Cancer. S. S. S. is an antidote for the destructive virus and peculiar poison that causes this horrible disease, and has been known for nearly fifty years as a safe and reliable cure for this contagion.

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If there are any ulcers, sores or pains in the bones, stiffness of muscles, rashes or pimples upon the body, you may be sure that the fires of contagion are still alive and the virus still at work in the blood and system, and only by crushing out the life of this serpent disease can you hope for release from its coils.

S. S. S. is a specific for Contagious Blood Poison and a cure for this serpent's sting. Write for our book on the disease, which tells of the different stages and symptoms, with directions for home treatment. Medical advice without charge.

THE SWIFT SPECIFIC COMPANY, ATLANTA, GA.

GREAT SPECTACLE OUT AT ST. LOUIS

Flag and Salutes at an Altitude of a Thousand Feet.

Messrs. Bowman, Patton, Kolmer, W. W. Baker and Murrell, commissioners and assistant commissioners for Virginia to the St. Louis Exposition, will leave to-day for the Missouri metropolis, to be present at the formal dedication of the exposition site on April 30th. These gentlemen will have an opportunity to witness one of the greatest and most unique spectacles ever witnessed in this country.

Among other aerial displays is one consisting of seven mammoth balloons, six of them with a capacity of 200,000 cubic feet of inflating gas each, and the seventh with a gas capacity of 400,000 feet. These balloons will be sent to an altitude of 1,000 feet, and then be lowered to the ground by means of electric connections and at a means of the large balloon, which will represent the United States, will unfurl an American flag 400 by 200 feet in dimensions. Immediately following this twenty-one aerial balloons will be successively fired as a salute to the flag. At twenty-one balloons will be fired, six of which represent six leading foreign nations, the flags of these nations will be simultaneously unfurled, each flag being 200 by 150 feet.

This novel spectacular effect is but one of many that will be seen on this occasion.

REBECCA'S TRIUMPH

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LAW-MAKES RARE WORKING HARD

Another Week Crowded With Much Important Business.

If the Legislature shall carry out its present intentions to adjourn on May 15th, less than three weeks remain in which to do the mass of work which lies before the body. While it is possible that the session may be extended beyond this date for several weeks, yet every effort is being made to get through, and the greater portion of the heavy work, at least, will be behind the members on that day.

The biggest thing on the Senate side is, of course, the Campbell case, and a Senator said last night that he thought the Legislature should remain here and dispose of it. If it required a few weeks after the time fixed for the recess, the Senate calendar contains a large number of bills of more or less importance, and others are being considered daily by the committees. The same is true of the House.

The most important matter pending there is the bill relating to the organization and government of corporations, and the passage thereof is awaited with great interest by the Corporation Commission and the public.

A large number of bills are upon the House calendar, though most of them are local in their nature. Many reports from standing committees are expected in this week, and they will be considered and disposed of with all possible speed. It is not expected that the body will get away promptly on May 15th.

Killed by the Train.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) BARBOURSVILLE, W. Va., April 25.—William S. Boyd, while walking along the Chesapeake and Ohio tracks at Milton to-day, was struck by train No. 38 and instantly killed. Mr. Boyd resided at Milton, W. Va., and was employed by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company as pumpman at that place, which position he has filled for the last twenty-four years.

Mr. Boyd was about sixty-four years old and leaves a wife, one son and two daughters.

He was born and raised in Hanover county, Va., and was living at Gordonsville when he moved with his family to this place twenty-five years ago. Mr. Boyd served in the Confederate army three years and was a good soldier. He was a kind husband and father, was faithful in the discharge of his duties to the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company and was a most excellent citizen, and the bereaved family has the sympathy of all who know them.



Not even Leprosy is more dangerous and deadly than Contagious Blood Poison. It is the greatest foe to human life and happiness, and the most loathsome and hateful of all forms of Blood Poison. The virus of this awful disease spreads quickly through the system and contaminates every drop of blood and affects every bone, muscle and tissue of the body. This monster scourge begins with a tiny little ulcer or sore, sometimes so small that the natural eye is deceived, but this little sign of infection is soon followed by swellings in the groin, a red rash or eruption upon the skin, the mouth and throat become sore and the hair and eyebrows fall out, and if the progress of the disease is not checked now, it passes on to another and even worse stage, when copper-colored spots and sores and offensive ulcers break out upon different parts of the body, and not even the muscles and bones escape the ravages of the destructive poison, which penetrates deeper and deeper, and gradually tightens its coils and crushes out the life.

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Shows To-Day. The Weather Bureau holds out for to-day the prospect of a cool and cloudy Sunday, with showers more or less frequent. It will probably be just such another day as yesterday afternoon and last night, only, perhaps, slightly cooler.